

reached the waters of Macassa. They wished to establish missions of the Church among the people who had treated Champlain so kindly, but the long standing feud existing between the Hurons and Iroquois prevented the Neutrals from allowing the missionaries to carry on missionary work on Neutral ground; and, though treated with courtesy and kindness, they were at last forced to abandon their project and go northward among their Huron allies, where they afterwards suffered most cruel martyrdom from the hands of the Iroquois, in testimony of the Christian faith.

It was after the Iroquois wiped out the Neutral confederacy from our Peninsula, that they in a like manner drove the Hurons from their old home on the banks of Lake Huron and Georgian Bay, forcing what was left of them to take refuge with the French in the Province of Quebec.

**1678** La Salle, the famous navigator of the Mississippi, accompanied by two priests, Dollin de Casson and Galinee, twenty-two young Frenchmen desirous of winning adventurous renown, and some Seneca Indians as guides, left Montreal. The party travelled by canoe, coasting the southern shores of the lake, and after thirty days' journey reached Macassa. La Salle was attacked here by a serious illness, aggravated by the shock which he received upon seeing so many rattlesnakes, the Heights being infested by those odious reptiles. He struck tent on the point we know as Oaklands. The first map of the country was made by Galinee, though considered incorrect in many ways. On his recovery La Salle proceeded from Oaklands toward Lake Erie. In the month of September, near the present Westover, he met Commissioner Louis Joliet and his party, who were returning to Quebec, via Macassa, from the Upper Lakes, where they had been sent by Intendent Talon, to investigate into the truth of reports received at Quebec of the existence of copper mines near Georgian Bay.

After the year 1764, the Mississagas, having joined the Iroquois League, with the permission of the League swept down upon the vacated neutral lands; and took up their abode on the frontage of Lake Ontario, from Mississaga Point, opposite Fort Niagara, on the south shore, to the present site of the city of Belleville on the north.